

How you set up group work in your classroom makes a huge impact. Things you should consider:

- Is the activity appropriate for groupwork?
- Is the group size appropriate for the task? Is every student needed to complete the task?
- Has your class established group norms?
- Is the purpose of the task clear to the students?
- How can task cards be used to help facilitate group independence?
- What roles are most appropriate for the task?
- Have students been taught the language of polite disagreement?
- What cues could be used on the wall to support student discussion? (sentence starters)
- Is my groupwork task designed so that students learning will emerge from the chance to talk, interact, and contribute to the group discussion?
- Can any one student complete the task without the assistance of group members? Students need to rely on other team members to complete the task.